

This Page Is Inserted by IFW Operations  
and is not a part of the Official Record

## **BEST AVAILABLE IMAGES**

Defective images within this document are accurate representations of the original documents submitted by the applicant.

Defects in the images may include (but are not limited to):

- BLACK BORDERS
- TEXT CUT OFF AT TOP, BOTTOM OR SIDES
- FADED TEXT
- ILLEGIBLE TEXT
- SKEWED/SLANTED IMAGES
- COLORED PHOTOS
- BLACK OR VERY BLACK AND WHITE DARK PHOTOS
- GRAY SCALE DOCUMENTS

**IMAGES ARE BEST AVAILABLE COPY.**

**As rescanning documents *will not* correct images,  
please do not report the images to the  
Image Problem Mailbox.**

# TRANSMITTAL FORM


*Do not be used for all correspondence after initial filing)*

<b>TRANSMITTAL FORM</b> <i>Do not be used for all correspondence after initial filing)</i>		Application Number	10/776,479
		Filing Date	February 10, 2004
		First Named Inventor	REDMOND, RUSSELL J.
		Art Unit	Unassigned
		Examiner Name	Unassigned
Total Number of Pages in This Submission		Attorney Docket Number	017067-002830US

## ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)


<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): Return Postcard PTO/SB/08B & PTO/SB/08B 1 Reference Copy.
Remarks The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees to Deposit Account 20-1430.		

## SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm or Individual	Townsend and Townsend and Crew LLP James M. Heslin	Reg. No. 29,541
Signature		
Date	April 22, 2004	

## CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below.

Typed or printed name	Edward Masinas		
Signature		Date	April 22, 2004

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

On

4-22-04

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By:

*Edward Masinas*

Edward Masinas

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

**PATENT**  
Attorney Docket No.: 017067-002830US  
Client Reference No.: WMUS 5874(3)



In re application of:

REDMOND, Russell J. et al.

Application No.: 10/776,479

Filed: February 10, 2004

For: PERCUTANEOUS TISSUE  
TRACK CLOSURE ASSEMBLY AND  
METHOD

Examiner: Unassigned

Art Unit: Unassigned

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR §1.97 and  
§1.98

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The references cited on attached form PTO/SB/08A and PTO/SB/08B are being called to the attention of the Examiner. In accordance with 37 CFR §1.98(d), copies of the references can be found in Application No. 09/957,176 (now U.S. Patent 6,699,262), filed September 19, 2001 (Attorney Docket No. 017067-002820US). It is respectfully requested that the cited references be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and the references be made of record therein and appear among the "references cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

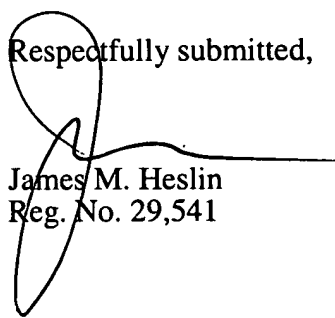
As provided for by 37 CFR 1.97(g) and (h), no inference should be made that the information and references cited are prior art merely because they are in this statement and no

representation is being made that a search has been conducted or that this statement encompasses all the possible relevant information.

Applicant believes that no fee is required for submission of this statement.

However, if a fee is required, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct such fee from the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 20-1430. Please deduct any additional fees from, or credit any overpayment to, the above-noted Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

  
James M. Heslin  
Reg. No. 29,541

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP  
Two Embarcadero Center, Eighth Floor  
San Francisco, California 94111-3834  
Tel: 650-326-2400  
Fax: 650-326-2422  
JMH:ewm  
60196029 v1

Substitute for form 1449B/PTO			<b>Complete if Known</b>		
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> (use as many sheets as necessary)			Application Number	10/776,479	
			Filing Date	February 10, 2004	
			First Named Inventor	REDMOND, RUSSELL J.	
			Art Unit	Unassigned	
			Examiner Name	Unassigned	
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	017067-002830US

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS+					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
	1	4,744,364	05-17-1988	Kensey	
	2	4,890,612	01-02-1990	Kensey	
	3	5,108,421	04-28-1992	Fowler	
	4	5,221,259	06-22-1993	Weldon et al.	
	5	5,330,446	07-19-1994	Weldon et al.	
	6	5,370,660	12-06-1994	Weinstein et al.	
	7	5,383,896	01-24-1995	Gershony et al.	
	8	5,413,571	05-09-1995	Katsaros et al.	
	9	5,419,765	05-30-1995	Weldon et al.	
	10	5,486,195	01-23-1996	Myers et al.	
	11	5,591,205	01-07-1997	Fowler	
	12	5,626,601	05-06-1997	Gershony et al.	
	13	5,653,730	08-05-1997	Hammerslag	
	14	5,728,132	03-17-1998	Van Tassel et al.	
	15	5,752,974	05-19-1998	Rhee et al.	
	16	5,855,559	01-05-1999	Van Tassel et al.	
	17	6,045,570	04-04-2000	Epstein et al.	
	18	6,193,670	02-27-2001	Van Tassel	
	19	6,699,262	03-02-2004	Redmond et al.	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup>	Number <sup>4</sup>	Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
	20	EP	0493810	B1	11-29-1995			

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T <sup>2</sup>

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
-----------------------	--	--------------------	--

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.